

CITIZENS FIRE ACADEMY



Are you ready for nine weeks of excitement and knowledge of the Fort Smith Fire Department? Then come join our **Citizen's Fire Academy**. Classes are on Thursday evenings from 6-9pm starting March 24th through May 19th. You may apply by filling out the online [application \(Click Here\)](#). Can't make it to this session, just fill out the application, send it in and you will be put in our contact list for the next session. The following is a little information about each session. For more information, please contact Assistant Chief Phil Christensen at 479-783-4052 or e-mail at pchristensen@fortsmithar.gov [Like us on Facebook](#)

Session 1 – Fighting Fires & Much More

The Fort Smith Fire Department is responsible for much more than simply fighting fires. During the opening night session, CFA participants will learn about FSFD's responsibilities and the organization's role in our community. Class participants will get hands-on experience with firefighter gear and equipment and handle a fire hose with water.

Session 2 – A Tour of the Town

Class participants will get to tour the Fire Stations around the city, including the new Station 11 at Chaffee Crossing. Do you know where your local Fire Station is?

Session 3 – A Higher Calling

This session separates the adventuresome class participants from those who prefer to keep their feet on the ground. Firefighters will demonstrate confined space and high angle rescues. Participants will get a ride in the Ladder Truck's platform, which reaches 105 feet high. The more daring class members can rappel down a rescue rope.

Session 4 – Dangerous

The Fort Smith Fire Department fields hazardous materials and bomb squad teams. The specially-trained and equipped crews respond to hazmat spills and potential Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) threats. This session features response scenarios for potentially deadly situations. Class members will suit up in a level "A" (moon suit) and participate in an entry.

Session 5 – Being Safe in Your

CFA participants will be briefed on fire prevention techniques, education, and code enforcement. Not only will participants learn how to prevent fire in their homes and places of business, class members will receive hands-on training with fire extinguishers on a live fire.

Session 6 – Quick Response & Action: The Difference Between Life & Death

Under simulated conditions, participants don full turnout gear and are trained in search and rescue techniques. FSFD rescue teams will also demonstrate vehicle extrication techniques, using an actual vehicle that will be cut up using the “Jaws of Life” tools.

Session 7 – First Responders to a Medical Emergency

Fort Smith Firefighters are typically first on the scene during a medical emergency. During this session, class members will learn about FSFD’s responsibility as a designated first responder. Participants will also receive a course in basic first aid and/or CPR during this session.

Session 8 – Meet Graci, the Toughest Firefighter

Participants see the FSFD Bomb Squad in action. This will include both a live entry by a bomb technician and a demonstration with “Graci” (the FSFD bomb robot). She and the team will show a render safe procedure on a simulated explosive device.

Session 9 – CFA Graduation

During this session we will begin with a dinner hosted by the FSFD. Students will receive their diploma, a group photo, and possibly a DVD of their experience during the Citizen’s Fire Academy. Prospective graduates will get to show off their new skills to friends and family members. FSFD’s activities, current operations, and future direction will be featured in a discussion between firefighters and citizens. Participants will be encouraged to provide their thoughts and suggestions about the FSFD.